

Serial Number 09/468,668 filed December 21, 1999

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 14 without prejudice and amend claims 1, 7, 15, 16 and 17 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method to prill a shear-thinnable mixture comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a molten first component;
- b) mixing at least a second component with said molten first component;
- c) reacting said components at a temperature and for a time sufficient to form a shear-thinnable mixture;
- d) mechanically agitating said shear-thinnable mixture at a rotational speed of at least 200 revolutions per minute in a prill head wherein essentially the entire liquid volume in said prill head is swept by an agitator to shear thin said shear-thinnable mixture; and
- e) permitting said shear-thinned mixture to flow through holes in said prill head under the influence of a force selected from the group consisting of static pressure and centrifugal force.

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7. (Twice Amended) A method to prill a shear-thinnable mixture through small prill holes comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a molten first component;
- b) mixing at least a second component with said molten first component;
- c) reacting said components at a temperature and for a time sufficient to form a shear-thinnable mixture;
- d) mechanically agitating said shear-thinnable mixture at a rotational speed of at least 200 revolutions per minute in a prill head wherein essentially the entire liquid volume in said prill head is swept by an agitator to shear thin said shear-thinnable mixture;
- e) wiping the surface of said prill head with surface wiping blades; and
- f) permitting said shear-thinned mixture to flow through small holes in said prill head under the influence of a force selected from the group consisting of static pressure or centrifugal force.

15. (Amended) The prilling method according to either claim 3 or claim 8, wherein the reaction time is about 10 minutes to about 15 minutes.

16. (Amended) The prilling method according to either claim 3 or claim 8, wherein the reaction temperature is at least about 180°C to about 200°C.

17. (Amended) The prilling method according to either claim 3 or claim 8, wherein the ammonium nitrate and the ammonium sulfate are present in equimolar amounts.